



KIIS Paris 1, Summer 2020

HON 300/ ENG 290 Topics: Prejudice and Tolerance in France

Instructor: Dr. Mich Nyawalo

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Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description:

In this course, students will examine the experiences of various immigrant communities that have settled in the Parisian region, through the prism of sociological and historical texts, music, films, a novel, and poems. In particular, students will analyze short excerpts from sociological and historical works such as Eliza Camiscioli's *Reproducing the French Race: Immigration, Intimacy, and Embodiment in the Early Twentieth Century*, Joanne Wallach Scott's *The Politics of the Veil*, as well as Mary Dewhurst Lewis' *The Boundaries of The Republic: Migrant Rights and the Limits of Universalism in France*. Students will also study the poems of Grand Corps Malade (a Parisian-based French slam poet); the music of Kery James, Médine, and La Rumeur (French rappers); *Black Bazar*, a novel chronicling the experiences of Congolese dandies in Paris; as well as Philippe Faucon's *Fatima*, a film depicting the struggles of a first-generation Muslim immigrant working to enable her daughter to have a better life. It is through the prism of these works that students will engage with topics such as assimilation, islamophobia, systemic discrimination, the rise of the extreme right, and the cultural politics of French national identity.

Honors colloquia are interdisciplinary in nature, and emphasize student-directed learning. Students participate in and lead discussion on various aspects of the broad topic, and select specific issues on which to base analytical writing projects.

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS creates and offers high-quality education abroad programs for students from diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help transform students into global citizens who have personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizing headlines and outdated cultural clichés to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating in KIIS Study Abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Articulate the relationship between ideas, experiences, and place;
- 2) Develop tools to engage with diverse people in the local cultures; and,
- 3) Explore other peoples' values and clarify their own.

In the equivalent of one, single-spaced typed page, reflect on:

How has this experience made you think – or act – differently about the world around you? Please consider the 3 SLOs discussed. Please don't consider course content in your response; instead, think beyond it, and be as specific as possible.

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes:

Student Learning Outcomes

This course will provide:

- 1) Knowledge of political debates and issues in France concerning immigration and diversity:
 - An informed understanding of the ways in which immigrants have shaped the cultural and political landscape of French society
 - A historical perspective for understanding connections of past and present
- 2) Intellectual and practical skills, including:
 - Increased proficiency in reading, writing and speaking in English
 - An understanding of society and human behavior
 - An awareness of the role of artistic expressions in the development of cultural identity

4. Major Topics covered in the Course:

- The history of immigration in France
- Religious diversity and the secular state
- Social exclusion in the *banlieue*
- The popular rise of the National Front in French politics
- The cultural politics of French national identity and diversity

5. Fulfillment of General Education Requirement: Fulfills the “global perspectives” or “cultural perspectives” requirement of the General Education program, depending on the students’ host institution.

6. Required Readings and Materials:

Students will read brief excerpts from the following books:

- *Reproducing the French Race: Immigration, Intimacy, and Embodiment in the Early Twentieth Century* by Eliza Camiscioli (excerpts provided by the professor)
- *The Boundaries of The Republic: Migrant Rights and the Limits of Universalism in France* by Mary Dewhurst Lewis (excerpts provided by the professor)
- *The Politics of the Veil* by Joanne Wallach Scott (excerpts provided by the professor)

Students will be required to read the following novel:

- *Black Bazar* by Alain Mabanckou (students must purchase this novel themselves)

The following films will be watched in class:

- *La Haine* by Mathieu Kassovitz
- *Fatima* by Philippe Faucon
- *Banlieusards* by Kery James

Students will also read and listen to the poems and music written by the following artists

- **La Rumeur:** “Le cuir usé d’une valise” (“The torn Leather of an old Suitcase”)
- **I AM:** “Nés sous la même étoile” (“Born under the same star”)
- **Kery James:** “Banlieusards” (“Ghetto People”), “Lettre à la République” (“Letter to the Republic”), “À l’ombre du show business” (“In the Shadows of Show Business”), “Je m’écris” (“I write myself”)
- **Grand Corps Malade:** “Saint-Denis”, “Éducation nationale” (“National education”)

- **Médine:** “Don't Laïk, Alger pleure” (“Alger cries”)
- **Diam's:** “Ma France à moi” (“My France”)

7. Graded Assignments:

GRADE BREAKDOWN

A: 90.00% and up	D: 60.00-69.99%
B: 80.00-89.99%	F: 59.99% and below
C: 70.00-79.99%	

COURSE EXAMINATIONS

- Written assignment #1: 30% of the final grade
- Written assignment #2: 30% of the final grade
- Journals: 30% of the final grade
- Attendance and participation in class activities, discussions and excursions: 10% of the final grade

Written assignments: There will be two written assignments that will take the place of exams. Each will consist of a particular question that will call on your ability to relate the material studied in class to your own observations. More details about each of these assignments will be given to students at the start of the course. Each of these assignments will count for 30% of the final grade.

Journals: You will have to keep a journal that will reflect on the significance of the sites visited during the entire course of the program. There will be three journal entries worth 10% each, for a total of 30% of the grade.

Attendance and participation in class activities, discussions and excursions: This course will follow the KIIS program attendance policy below. Students' participation will be evaluation based on a combination of student's preparedness for each class session, respect for their classmates and professor, and their active participation in class activities, discussions and excursions.

8. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

9. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/>

early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program. If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will contact your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter. In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

10. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson (270-745-5398 / andrea.anderson@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / joshua.hayes@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/titleixbrochure.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any

kind. Be respectful of each other.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Wed, June 3: Group Flight Departure

Thu, June 4: Arrival in Paris; coach bus transportation to hotel; informal neighborhood orientation walking tour

Fri, June 5: Class day #1 (2 contact hours);

- **Before class, read** provided excerpts from *Reproducing the French Race*
- **Topic:** Introduction to the course and class discussion on *Reproducing the French Race*
- Louvre in evening (mandatory for students taking this class); free admission 6-9:45pm
- Group meeting #1 today

Sat, June 6: Paris City Center Walking Tour in 3 groups (each faculty leading one—this is a suggestion; 4 contact hours); Crêpe Street Food Social in Groups

Sun, June 7: Class Excursion Day #1 (4 contact hours)

- Class excursion to the Musée d'Orsay (free admission 1st Sunday of the month)

Mon, June 8: Class day #2 (2 contact hours)

- **Before class, read** provided excerpts from *The Boundaries of The Republic* and *Reproducing the French Race*
- **Topic:** Class discussion on *The Boundaries of The Republic* and *Reproducing the French Race*

Tue, June 9: Class day #3 (2 contact hours)

- **Before class, read** provided excerpts from *The Boundaries of The Republic* and *Reproducing the French Race*
- **Topic:** Class discussion on *The Boundaries of The Republic* and *Reproducing the French Race*

Wed, June 10: Class Excursion Day #2 (4 contact hours)

- Class excursion to Goutte d'Or Chateau Rouge
- Class excursion to the musée du quai Branly
- **First journal due**

Thu, June 11: Class day #4 (2 contact hours)

- **Watch** *Fatima* in class
- Group meeting #2 today

Fri, June 12-Sun, June 14: FREE 3-DAY WEEKEND

Mon, June 15: Class day #5 (2 contact hours)

- **Before class, read** provided excerpts from *The Politics of the Veil* and the music of Médine

- **Topic:** Class discussion on *The Politics of the Veil*, the film *Fatima*, and the music of Médine

Tue, June 16: Class day #6 (2 contact hours)

- **Watch** *La Haine* in class

Wed, June 17: Class day #7 (2 contact hours);

- **Topic:** Class discussion on *La Haine*
- Picnic in the park this evening
- **Second journal due**
- **First Assignment Due**

Th June 18-Sun, June 21: FREE 4-DAY WEEKEND

Mon, June 22: Class day #8 (2 contact hours)

- **Watch** *Banlieusards* in class
- Group meeting #3 today

Tue, June 23: Group excursion #1: Versailles avec Grandes Eaux

Wed, June 24: Class day #9 (2 contact hours)

- **Topic:** Class discussion on *Banlieusards*

Thu, June 25: Class Excursion Day #3 (4 contact hours)

- Class excursion to Cité nationale de l'histoire de l'immigration

Fri, June 26: Class day #10 (2 contact hours);

- **Before class, read** *Black Bazar*
- **Topic:** Class discussion on *Black Bazar*
- Louvre in evening (optional for students taking this class); free admission 6-9:45pm
- **Third Journal Due**

Sat, June 27: Group excursion #2: Loire Valley Group excursion with stops at Chambord and Chenonceau

Sun, June 28: Free day; Group Farewell Dinner

Mon, June 29: (Class day #11; 2 contact hours)

- **Before class, read** (and listen online if possible) the song lyrics and poems of La Rumeur, Kery James, I AM, Grand corps malade, and Diam's
- **Topic:** Class discussion on French popular music and politics
- Finals
- Group meeting #4 today
- Bateaux Mouches tour today/this evening
- **Second Assignment Due**

Tue, June 30: Group departure

- Métro/RER transportation to airport